PANEL OF CHAIRMEN.

PRESIDENT: Under Rule 3 (2) of the Travancore Legislative Rules, I have nominated Messrs. A. Thanu Pillai and K. C. Karunakaran as the Panel of Chairmen for the Seventh Session.

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS.

PRESIDENT: We now proceed to Legislative Business. The first item is the first reading of the Travancore Factories Bill.

THE TRAVANCORE FACTORIES BILL.

PRESIDENT: I may remind Honourable Members that some discussion has already taken place on this Bill and a certain number of gentlemen have already spoken. I may remind them of the fact that they have already spoken and that they will not be permitted to speak again. The members who have already spoken are:

Mr. K. C. Karunakaran,
„ K. Kunjukrishna Pillai,
„ M. N. Nair,
„ K. R. Elenkath,
„ A. S. Damodaran Asan,
„ G. Nilakantan,
„ N. John Joseph, and
„ J. W. Tolson.

Now the discussion will be resumed.

SADASYA TILAKAN T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*): I rise to support the Bill. This piece of legislation has been long over-due. The condition of the labouring classes in Travancore is quite as bad as that of the agricultural classes The employers' interests should certainly be protected. But a Regulation is necessary in order to prevent the strong employer from taking advantage of the weakness of the labourers. I do not suggest for a moment that all employers are hard-hearted or that they are not responsive to any demands made by the employees. But unless there is a law, there will be no means of preventing some amount of hardship; for, unorganised labour is generally helpless. Hardships existed before the Trade Unions came into existence in the west. They were able to take undue advantage of their wealth. But such things have changed because the State has developed and its police powers have extended during the last several years. Competition is a bigger question, for there is no means of preventing an unhealthy operation of that sometimes unhealthy rule. Therefore I congratulate the Government in having come forward with this conciliatory measure

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): What is the kind of mischief which the member thinks the Bill seeks to remedy?

SADASYA TILAKAN T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Urban*): There are employees who are obliged to work more than 12 hours a day. I have come across instances in which the same men, I do not say the

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